- (c) a settlement server, receiving said requests, accessing at least one of said user registration databases, and communicating said request and an user identity to one of a plurality of user account databases; and
- (d) said user registration databases and said user account databases being independent and remotely located with respect to each other.
  - 82. A method, comprising:
- (a) recording a user identification, including user account reference information, into one of a plurality of separately maintained user registration databases;
- (b) issuing a request to post a transaction to a particular user account, without requiring knowledge of a respective user identity by a posting party;
  - (c) at a settlement server:
    - (i) receiving the request from the posting party,
    - (ii) accessing at least one of the user registration databases, and
  - (iii) communicating the request and an user identity to corresponding one of a plurality of user account databases; and
  - (d) independently maintaining the user registration databases and the user account databases at remote locations.

## <u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1-82 are in the application.

Claims 81 and 82 are added by Preliminary Amendment.

A request for Interference with Teper, et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,815,665, has been filed previously.

Respectfully submitted,

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